

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A hacksaw with support arm, comprising:

a frame having an elongated top portion extending along an axis generally from a front of said frame to a rear of said frame;

a front leg extending from said axis and a back leg extending from said axis, said front leg and said back leg having means for supporting a blade from distal ends of said front leg and said back leg; and

a support arm slidably engaged to said top portion, said support arm extending rearwardly from said top portion in the direction of said axis, said support arm including an arm support for resting against a user's forearm during use of said hacksaw.

2. The hacksaw of claim 1 further comprising means for receiving said support arm on said frame such that said support arm is slideable to a plurality of degrees of extension.

3. The hacksaw of claim 2 wherein said means for receiving allows said support arm to be fully retracted such that said support arm is coextensive with said upper portion.

4. The hacksaw with support arm according to claim 1, wherein said frame includes a support arm housing that slidably receives said extensible support arm.

5. The hacksaw of claim 1 further comprising a latch mechanism to lock said support arm in at least one extended position.

6. The hacksaw of claim 5 wherein said latch includes a latching portion that engages a notch formed in said support arm when said support arm is locked.

7. The hacksaw of claim 6 wherein said latch includes a trigger portion in mechanical communication with said latching portion such that when said trigger portion is pulled, said latching portion is released from said notch.

8. The hacksaw of claim 7 wherein said latch further includes a pivot located between said trigger and said latching portion.

9. The hacksaw of claim 6 further comprising a spring biasing said latching portion toward said notch, thereby maintaining said latching portion in engagement with said notch when said support arm is locked.

10. The hacksaw of claim 1 wherein said support arm is formed with a U-shaped cross section, wherein the legs of the U point in the direction said back leg.

11. The hacksaw of claim 1 further comprising a handle disposed rearwardly of said back leg, said handle extending down from said top portion.

12. The hacksaw of claim 11 wherein said handle is attached at its top end to said top portion and at its bottom end to said back leg.

13. A hacksaw having a support arm, the hacksaw comprising:

a frame having an elongated portion and two leg portions extending away from an axis of said elongated portion, the leg portions including means for supporting a blade therebetween at distal ends of said leg portions; and

a support arm slidably engaged to said elongated portion and extensible between a retracted position in which said support arm is coextensive with said elongated portion and an extended position in which said support arm extends rearwardly of a back one of said legs, said support arm including a forearm support.

14. The hacksaw of claim 13 wherein said forearm support includes a pair of wings extending out and down from said support arm to form a segment of an arm cuff for comfortably resting against the upper side of a person's forearm.

15. The hacksaw of claim 14 wherein said forearm support further comprises padding fixed to an underside of said pair of wings.

16. The hacksaw of claim 13 further comprising:

a latch having means for locking said support arm in one of an extended and retracted position.

17. The hacksaw of claim 16 wherein said support arm includes a notch and said latch comprises a latching portion biased by a spring to engage said notch when said notch is aligned with said latching portion, thereby locking said support arm in a position corresponding with said alignment.

18. The hacksaw of claim 17 herein said support arm includes a plurality of notches along a length of said support arm allowing said latch to lock said support arm into a plurality of degrees of extension.

19. The hacksaw of claim 17 wherein said latch is pivotally mounted to said frame by a pin extending through said frame and said latch, said spring urges said latch to rotate about said pivot thereby biasing said latching portion toward said support arm.

20. The hacksaw of claim 19 wherein said latch further comprises a trigger positioned forward of said back leg, said trigger being fixed to said latching portion with said pivot being positioned between said latching portion and said trigger such that when said trigger is pulled, said latch rotates on said pivot in a direction counter to said bias of said spring, thereby releasing said latching portion from said notch.